

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03996 251548Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /088 W

-----049826 251612Z /45

R 251126Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8447

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 3996

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, IV

SUBJECT: MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN IVORY COAST

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF IVORY COAST (PDCI) IS CURRENTLY PREPARING A NEW MUNICIPAL LAW THAT WOULD PERMIT ELECTIONS IN 26 IVORIAN CITIES. PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT LAW IS EXPECTED SOON AND ELECTIONS REPORTEDLY MAY TAKE PLACE AS EARLY AS THIS JUNE. END SUMMARY.

1. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS IN RECENT WEEKS THAT GOIC WAS CONSIDERING A NEW MUNICIPAL LAW THAT WOULD PERMIT THE ELECTION OF MAYORS AND/OR MUNICIPAL COUNCILS IN TWENTY-SIX IVORIAN CITIES, UNCLASSIFIED

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WHICH IS TO SAY IN EVERY CENTER OF EVEN MODEST POPULATION DENSITY IN IVORY COAST.

2. DURING A RECENT TRIP UPCOUNTRY, EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER LEARNED LOCAL ELECTIONS ARE EAGERLY EXPECTED AS EARLY AS THIS JUNE. OFFICIALS STATED NEW LAW WOULD GIVE CITIES A CERTAIN POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SHARING LOCAL BUDGET

EXPEDITURES WITH THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

3. THERE REMAINS, HOWEVER, MUCH SPECULATION AS TO WHAT THE NEW LAW MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT PERMIT. NO ONE IS CERTAIN WHETHER PEOPLE WILL ELECT A MAYOR OR A CITY COUNCIL (THAT WOULD THEN SELECT A MAYOR) OR BOTH. NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT QUALIFICATIONS CANDIDATES WILL HAVE TO MEET. NEVERTHELESS, SEVERAL OFFICIALS SUGGEST THE NEW LAW WILL PERMIT A SIGNIFICANT EXTENSION OF PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY IN IVORY COAST THAT COULD LEAD TO FURTHER CHANGE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS OF 1980.

STEARNS

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 25 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN IVORY COAST BEGIN SUMMARY: THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF IVORY COAST (PDCI) IS CURRENTLY PREPARING A NEW MU
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, IV
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